

Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) is being implemented, have followed the priorities fixed by the Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by Government to see that the priorities fixed by the Central Government are followed by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Works to be taken up by the State Governments under the employment guarantee schemes formulated under NREGA have been prescribed in their order of priority in Para 1 of Schedule 1 of the Act. The State Governments are following the order of priority for selection of works. A total of 415910 works have so far been taken up under the Act since its inception on 2.2.2006, out of which 188035 relate to water conservation, 30631 are drought proofing and plantation, 8248 are flood control works and 105558 are rural roads according to the permissible works of NREGA. Thus the soil and water conservation works taken together constitute 54.55% of the total works taken up under the Act. State-wise details of the works taken up under the Act are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Regular monitoring of the implementation of the Act is done by the Central Government. Periodic review meetings have been undertaken by Minister of Rural Development and Secretary (Rural Development) from time to time. National Level Monitors (NLMs) and Area Officers of the Ministry visit various districts to oversee the progress of the Act. So far 137 NLMs and 29 Area Officers have visited the various districts.

Ban on employing children below age of 14 years

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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a ban has been imposed recently on

employing children below the age of 14 years in dhabas, restaurants, homes, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the machinery established to implement the ban;

(c) a broad estimate of the number of children who are employed as labour and are likely to be affected by the ban; and

(d) the details of the comprehensive plan drawn up, if any, to rehabilitate the children who would be rendered jobless?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. Under the Child labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, Government has recently issued a Notification prohibiting employment of children in the following two occupations with effect from 10.10.06

(i) Employment of children as domestic workers/servants; and

(ii) Employment of children in dhabas (roadside eateries), restaurants, hotels, motels, tea-shops, spas and other recreational centres etc.

(b) and (d) As the State Governments are the "appropriate" governments for implementation of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 in their respective areas, they have all been advised for taking all appropriate measures for effective implementation of this notification. In this connection, the then Union Labour Minister had written to all the Chief Ministers, and the Union Labour Secretary had also taken up this issue with the Chief Secretaries of all State Governments/UTs. Government of India has also held consultations with the State Governments, NGOs and other stake holders, at zonal level all over the country during the months of September and October, 2006, before the ban became effective. During these zonal conferences held at Bangalore (Southern Zone), Guwahati (North Eastern Zone), Ranchi (Eastern Zone), Amritsar (Northern Zone) and Goa (Western Zone), the State Government

discussed their respective action plans for effecting the ban and for the rehabilitation of these children. All the State Governments have assured that the Central Government's Notification would be duly implemented, alongwith rehabilitation of the affected children, wherever required. NGOs and other members of civil society also participated in these consultations and have assured support, wherever necessary.

The Government is implementing the National Child Labour Scheme in 250 districts of 20 States in the country. Another 21 districts have been taken up under an Indo-US Child Labour Project. Under the Scheme, children withdrawn from work are provided education, nutrition, vocational training, stipend and healthcare etc. In addition, to take care of the special needs of the children who would be withdrawn from work from these two occupations, shelter homes and Child Line, an emergency toll free helpline under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, would be used to provide immediate help to these children in terms of food, clothing and shelter.

Ministry of Labour and Employment has also recently held meetings with representatives of other Ministries like Ministry of Women and Child Development, M/o. Human Resource Development, M/o. Rural Development, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and M/o. Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation to ensure coordination and convergence of existing Central Government Schemes in the rehabilitation measures, and to address other issues related to the implementation of the recent Notification dated 10th October, 2006.

(c) Census is the most authentic source of data on Child Labour. As per the Census 2001, there are 1.26 crores working children in the country. Approximately 2.56 lakhs children, as per the Census 2001 are working in these two occupations. However, these figures are indicative since the categorisation of occupations in Census does not entirely match with the list of hazardous occupations listed under the Act insofar as child labour working in dhabas, restaurants etc. are concerned.

Statement

Physical Performance under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act during 2006-07

Sl No	State	No. of Distt		Water Conservation		Drought Proofing and Plantation		Food control		Rural Connectivity		Other works		Total Nos. of works						
		Compl- led	In-Pro- gress	Total	In-Pro- gress	Total	In-Pro- gress	Total	In-Pro- gress	Total	In-Pro- gress	Total	In-Pro- gress	Total						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	Andhra Pradesh	13	671	51984	18	489	507	0	0	0	0	2	2	363	110	79	11442	1062	63554	84606
2	Andhra Pradesh	1	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	0	—	0	—	—	49	8	57	48	8	57
3	Assam	7	186	514	700	50	244	294	135	258	434	556	971	1527	611	489	1110	1539	2526	4066
4	Bihar	23	1061	2636	3697	51	189	240	293	58	361	7438	5926	13364	4290	2660	7150	13133	11698	24802
5	Chhattisgarh	11	1463	933	2366	2806	769	3575	39	20	59	2308	2100	4408	1725	34	1859	8341	966	12297
6	Gujarat	6	922	1163	2066	26	57	83	2	7	9	64	536	620	54	119	173	1088	1882	2970
7	Haryana	2	34	232	266	0	6	6	0	17	17	44	114	158	11	100	111	89	489	598
8	Himachal Pradesh	2	194	378	199	572	80	119	1	36	241377	519	1002	1521	564	1385	1949	1463	3125	4618
9	Jammu & Kashmir	3	5	17	22	0	2	2	121	120	241	80	273	363	162	322	484	368	734	1102
10	Jharkhand	20	5464	14539	20003	86	332	477	7	27	34	2975	5366	8370	1331	2369	3730	9862	22782	33614
11	Karnataka	5	1562	2046	3607	162	593	725	138	427	565	617	888	1506	1723	952	2675	4202	4675	9077
11	Kerala	2	—	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	18	26399	37420	66619	5866	4453	10009	511	799	1310	7574	14180	21754	14825	14848	29773	57625	71700	128666
14	Marhasthra	12	—	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1901	3267	5168	—	—	—	—
15	Manipur	1	5	4	9	0	42	42	0	0	0	10	141	151	0	32	32	15	219	234
16	Meghalay	2	—	—	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	2	10	6	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	159	50	208	11	9	20	180	65	245
18	Nagaland	1	—	—	26	26	—	17	17	5	5	—	55	55	—	—	15	15	0	118

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
19 Orissa	19	3200	5147	8347	374	1365	1739	122	229	351	4958	9143	14101	2881	2503	5394	11535	18387	28822		
20 Punjab	1	48	212	260	5	5	10	24	6	30	184	550	734	34	85	119	235	868	1153		
21 Rajasthan	6	3393	6113	9806	86	426	8	511	50	65	115	361	3164	3525	118	700	818	4007	10468		
22 Sikkim	1	72	9	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	8	11	21	59	80	31	73	104			
23 Tamil Nadu	6	788	2238	3026	0	0	0	6	35	40	203	172	375	291	1322	1613	1288	3767	5055		
24 Tripura	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	488	931	1399	458	931	1399					
25 Uttaranchal	3	733	909	1642	97	290	387	355	328	683	63	31	94	277	76	353	1525	1644	3169		
26 Uttar Pradesh	22	2174	5817	7981	3977	2917	6884	818	1350	2168	11702	15886	27597	2611	2716	5327	21282	28685	49377		
27 West Bengal	10	2335	3246	5381	1125	3488	4613	543	902	1445	2320	2894	5124	1072	1525	2597	7005	12155	19160		
TOTAL	200	52254	188035	14797	19634	30631	3301	4947	8248	42068	63490	105558	33592	44578	78270	148013	267897	415910			